

**HARALSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**APRIL 7, 2015**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

The Regular Meeting of the Haralson County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Allen Poole. The Invocation was given by E911 Director Cathy Thompson and the Pledge was led by the Commissioners. Chairman Poole noted for the record that Commissioner Smith was absent.

Chairman Poole stated that the minutes of the previous meeting were sent to the commissioners to review prior to the meeting. He asked if anyone had any corrections to be made. There were none. Commissioner Robinson motioned to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2015 regular meeting as written. Commissioner Dobbs seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Bennett motioned to approve the agenda. Commissioner Robinson seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

**Chairman's Report**

Chairman Poole stated that 12 vendors signed up for bid packages to work on the Recreation Project. Storm water and sewer work should start in 3-4 weeks.

HB 170, the Transportation Bill, passed the Georgia Legislature. This will put a .26 tax on gas and diesel that will be used for roads, bridges and transportation needs in the state. These funds will trickle down to Haralson through the LMIG funds. A summary of the bill was put in all the commissioners' folders. Tyler Smith, who worked in Representative Cooke's office, stated that all three of Haralson County's local delegation voted against the bill.

**Item #1 – Confederate History Month Proclamation**

This proclamation is to celebrate the history of the southern states and the end of the "War between the states." County Clerk Alison Palmer read the Proclamation into the minutes. The representative had not arrived at the meeting. Chairman Poole motioned to accept the Proclamation. Commissioner Robinson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Item #2 – Gebcorp Pension Plan Change Resolution**

Chairman Poole asked Alison to explain this item. This resolution makes several changes to the employee retirement plan. These are:

- Effective July 1, 2015 – It will be mandatory for all new employees or rehired employees to go on the Defined benefit program. This will begin immediately upon hiring. Employees will be required to put in 2% of their earnings.
- Employees will not be able to draw out the contributions unless they discontinue employment with the county
- Employees will no longer be eligible to begin drawing benefits while still employed with the county, even at age 65.

Chairman Poole motioned to approve the resolution. Commissioner Robinson seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

**Item #3 – Public Participation / Meetings Ordinance**

Chairman Poole asked County Attorney, Julie Cain, to explain the changes to this ordinance. Ms. Cain stated that the first portion regarding the order of business would make the meetings run a little smoother. The Public Participation portion addresses the decorum of the public and the commissioners. It also requires that anyone signing up for Public participation either be a

resident or real property owner in Haralson County. It gives the rules and times for public participation and names the county attorney as parliamentarian.

Commissioner Robinson motioned to approve the changes to the Public participation/ Meetings ordinance. Commissioner Dobbs seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Item #4 – Meeting Time**

Chairman Poole stated that his office has continued to receive calls from citizens that do not like the meetings being in the evening. The majority of these people are senior citizens who are not comfortable driving at night. The board had discussed this item and decided to compromise and have 6 morning meetings and 6 night meetings.

- April through September would remain at 6:00 PM
- October through March would move back to 10:00 AM

All would still be on the first Tuesday of the month. Commissioner Robinson motioned to change the meeting schedule as stated above. Commissioner Dobbs seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

#### **Item #1 – revisited**

Chairman Poole took this opportunity to ask Billy Bearden, the representative of the Haralson Invincibles Camp 673, Sons of the Confederate Veterans to come forward for the Chairman to present the Proclamation to him. Commissioner Bennett asked Mr. Bearden to tell a little bit about his organization.

#### **Item #5 – Executive Session**

Commissioner Robinson motioned to go into executive session. Commissioner Dobbs seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Robinson motioned to go back into the regular meeting. Commissioner Bennett seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Cain stated that the executive session was regarding mediation with the cities regarding Service Delivery.

Commissioner Robinson informed everyone that the Concerned Veterans for America would be honoring all county law enforcement officers with a dinner and a proclamation from the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2015. Meeting will be at 6:00 PM at Helton Howland Park and will include dinner. Please RSVP.

Commissioner Robinson motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Dobbs seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Alison Palmer  
County Clerk